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THE MIGHTY
THOR

The Mighty
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WHEN DR. JANE FOSTER LIFTS THE MYSTIC HAMMER MJOLNIR, SHE IS TRANSFORMED INTO THE GODDESS OF THUNDER, THE MIGHTY THOR! HER ENEMIES ARE MANY, AS ASGARD DESCENDS FURTHER INTO CHAOS AND WAR THREATENS TO SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE TEN REALMS. YET HER GREATEST BATTLE WILL BE AGAINST A FAR MORE PERSONAL FOE: THE CANCER THAT IS KILLING HER MORTAL FORM...

AFTER FREEING THE LIGHT ELVES FROM THE DARK ELF KING, MALEKITH, JANE ATTEMPTED TO RESUME HER CANCER TREATMENTS AND DUTIES WITH THE CONGRESS OF WORLDS, BUT WAS FORCED BACK INTO ACTION WHEN THE SHI'AR INVADED ASGARDIA. GLADIATOR KIDNAPPED THOR AND TOOK HER TO THE SHI'AR GODS SHARRA AND K'YTHRI, WHO DEMANDED THOR PARTICIPATE IN A CHALLENGE OF THE GODS. WITH EARTH UNDER SHI'AR GUNS, THOR WAS FORCED TO AGREE. SHE HAD NO IDEA THAT LOKI—UNDER MALEKITH'S INSTRUCTIONS—HAD MANIPULATED SHARRA AND K'YTHRI TO DISTRACT HER WHILE THEY CONTINUED TO EXPAND THEIR ARMY.

THOUGH SHE WON SEVERAL ROUNDS, THOR WAS SOON OUTMATCHED WHEN SHE REFUSED TO CAUSE MASS SUFFERING IN ORDER TO INSPIRE PRAYERS, AS THE RULES OF THE CHALLENGE DEMANDED. DISGUSTED BY SHARRA AND K'YTHRI'S PROPENSITY FOR VIOLENCE, THOR ATTEMPTED TO END THE CHALLENGE, BUT THE DEITIES INVOKED THE ULTIMATE JUDGMENT—AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE CHALLENGE OFFICIATE, THE MAD GOD SHADRAK. BEFORE THAT THREAT COULD COME TO FRUITION, THE ASGARDIAN ARMY BROKE THROUGH THE SHI'AR GUARD TO CONFRONT SHARRA AND K'YTHRI ALONGSIDE THOR.

NONE OF THEM KNOW WHAT THE GODS HAVE AWOKEN. IN THE DARKEST CORNER OF THE COSMOS, A TERRIBLE POWER STRETCHES FORTH ITS HAND...

THE ASGARD/SHI'AR WAR, PART FOUR:

THE OMEGA KISS

WRITER: JASON AARON
ARTIST: RUSSELL DAUTERMAN
COLOR ARTIST: MATTHEW WILSON
LETTERER & PRODUCTION: VC's JOE SABINO
COVER ARTISTS: RUSSELL DAUTERMAN & MATTHEW WILSON
RESURRXION VARIANT COVER ARTISTS: RYAN STEGMAN & JESUS ABURTOV
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: SARAH BRUNSTAD
EDITOR: WIL MOSS
EXECUTIVE EDITOR: TOM BREVOORT
EDITOR IN CHIEF: AXEL ALONSO
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER: JOE QUESADA
PRESIDENT: DAN BUCKLEY
EXEC. PRODUCER: ALAN FINE
THOR CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER & JACK KIRBY

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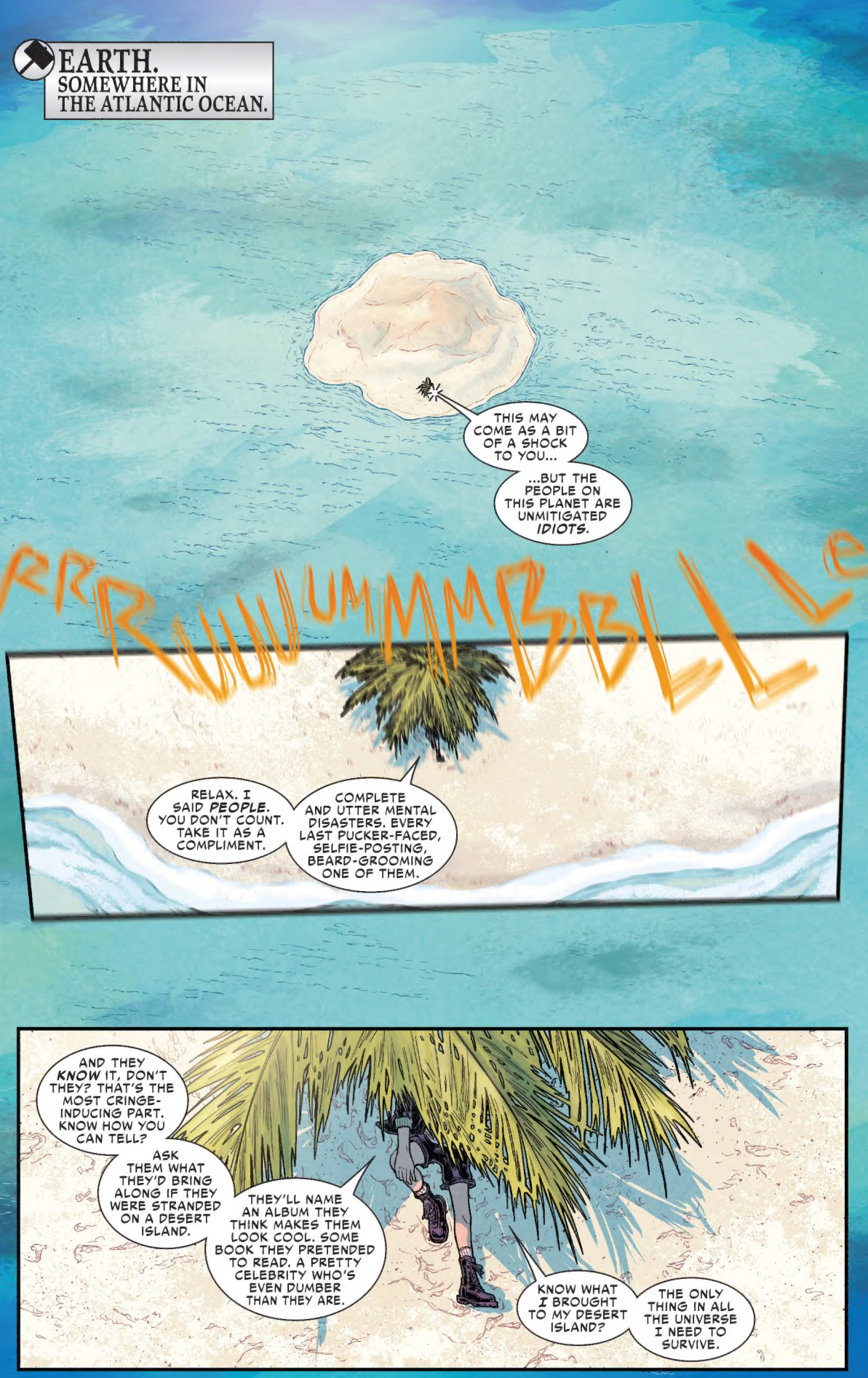
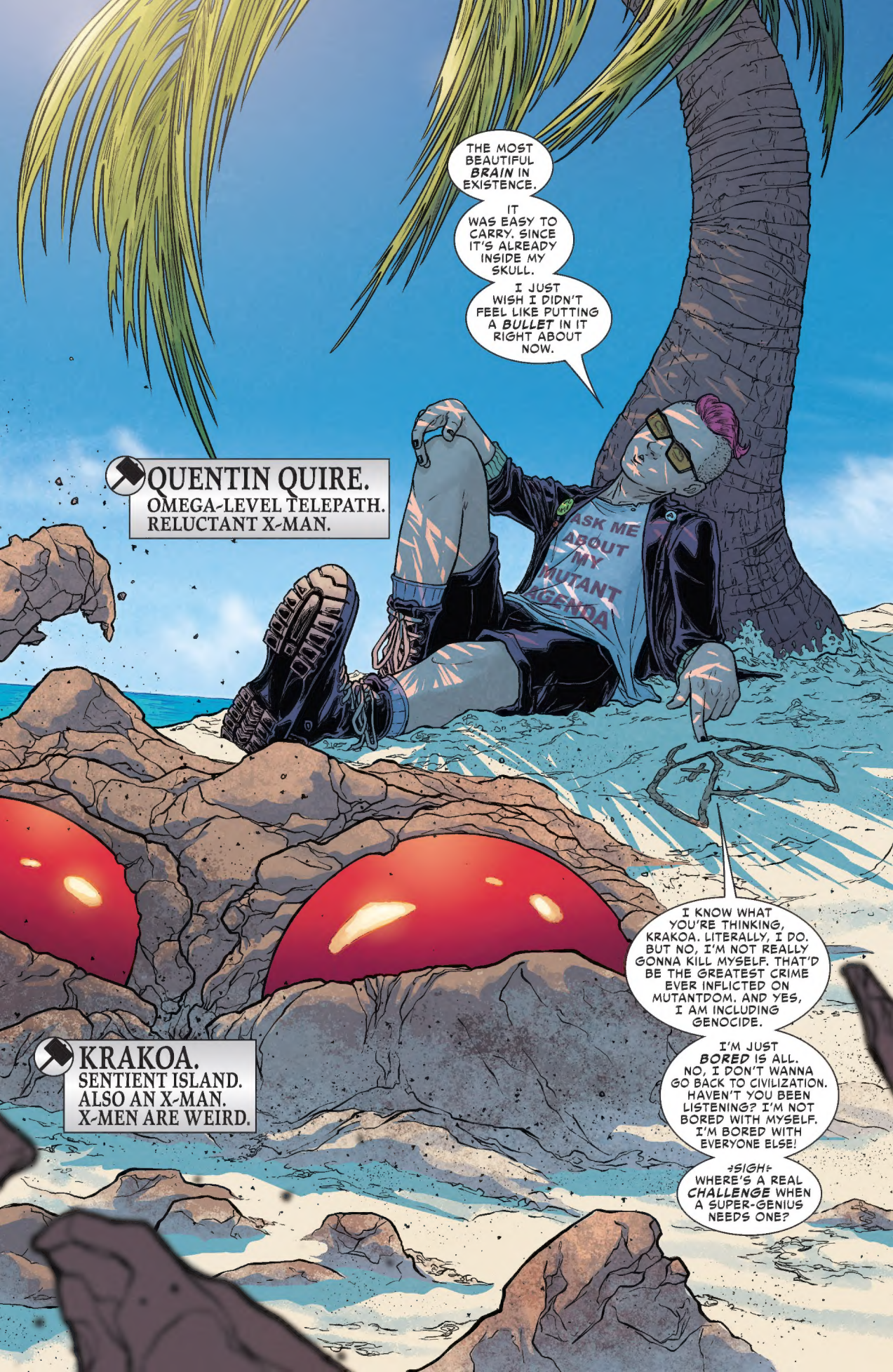
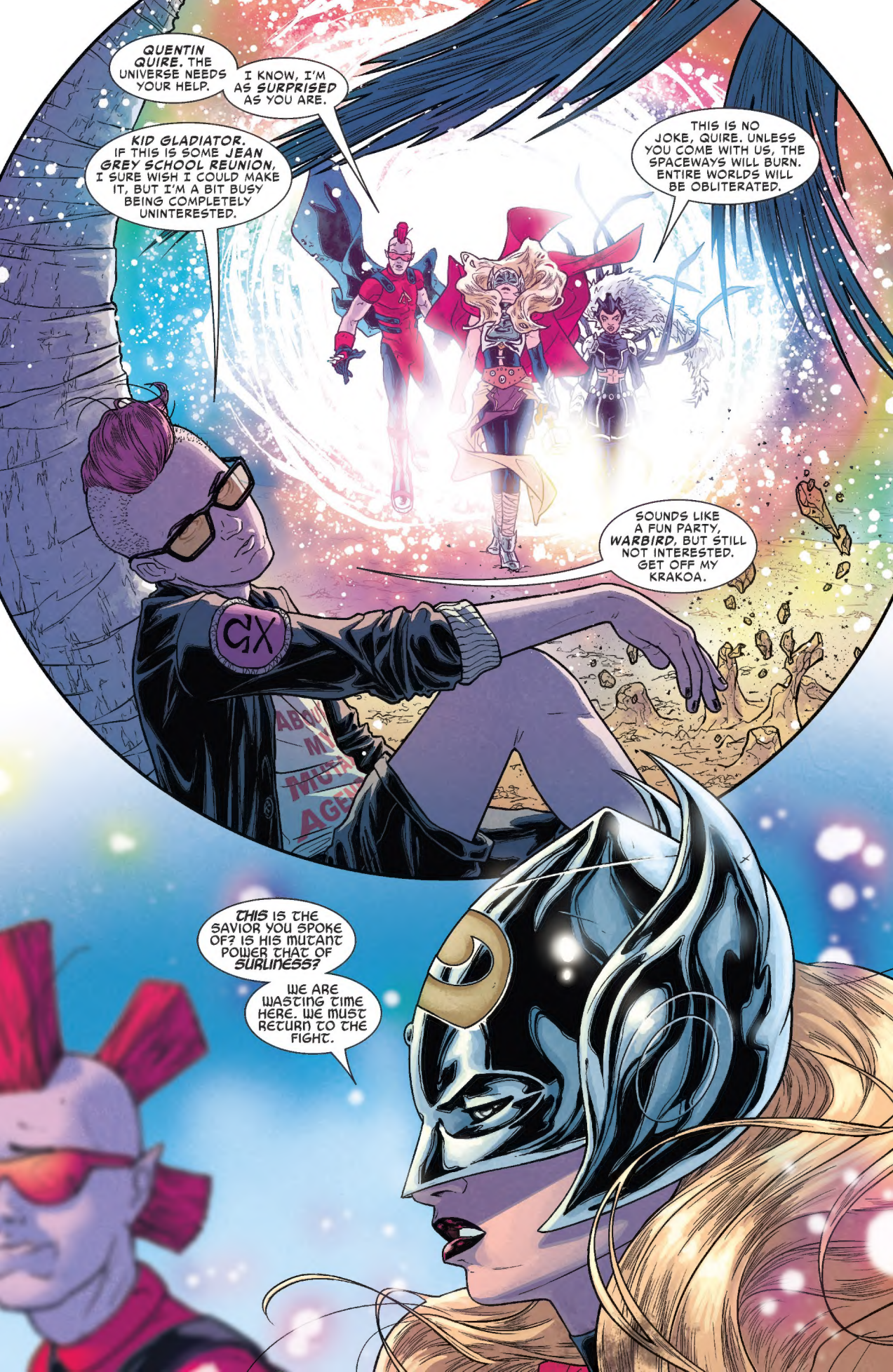
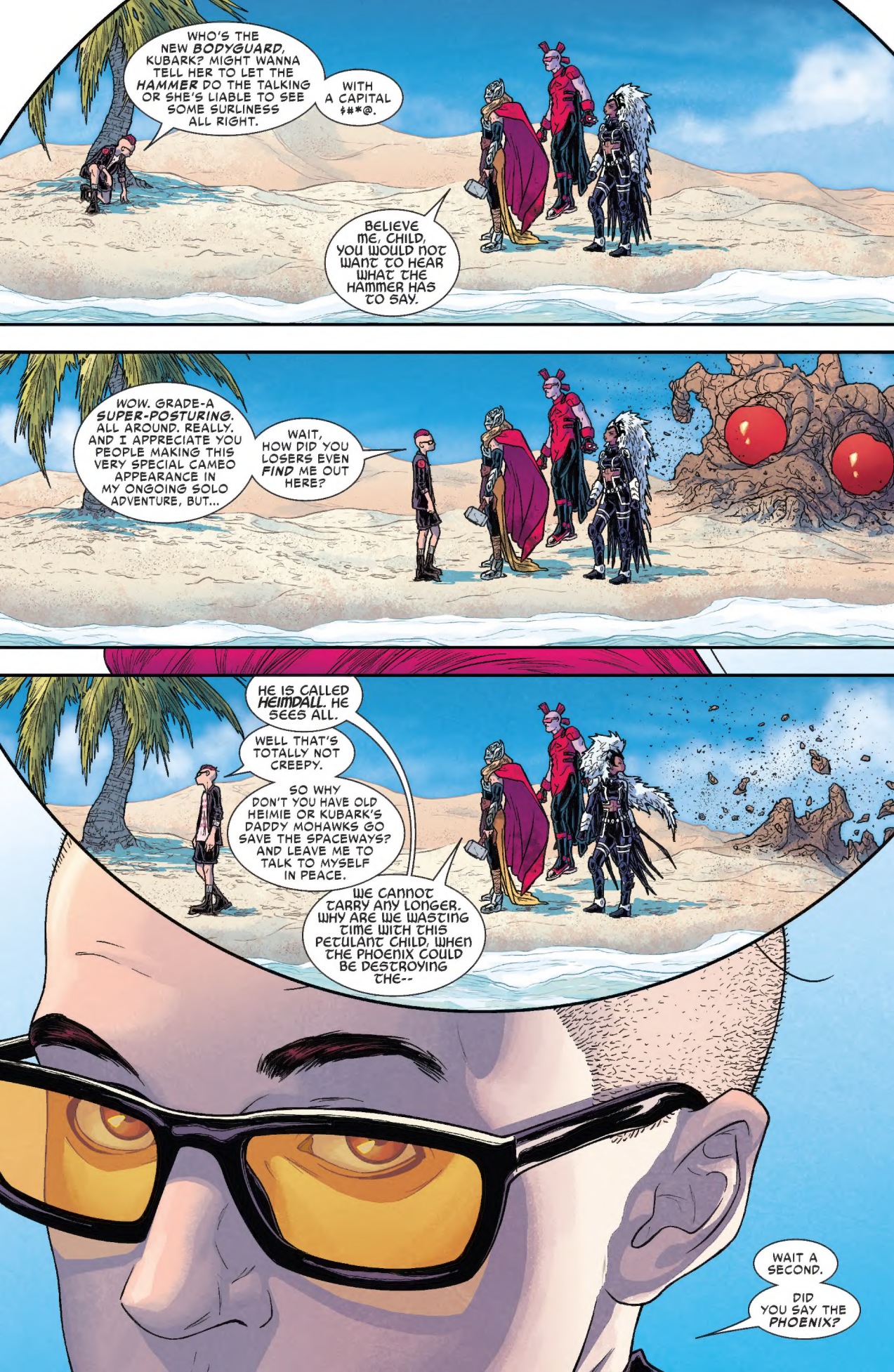

EARTH.
SOMEWHERE IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.
THIS MAY COME AS A BIT OF A SHOCK TO YOU...
...BUT THE PEOPLE ON THIS PLANET ARE UNMITIGATED IDIOTS.
RRRUUUMMMBBLLLe
RELAX. I SAID PEOPLE. YOU DON'T COUNT. TAKE IT AS A COMPLIMENT.
COMPLETE AND UTTER MENTAL DISASTERS. EVERY LAST PUCKER-FACED, SELFIE-POSTING, BEARD-GROOMING ONE OF THEM.
AND THEY KNOW IT, DON'T THEY? THAT'S THE MOST CRINGE-INDUCING PART. KNOW HOW YOU CAN TELL?
ASK THEM WHAT THEY'D BRING ALONG IF THEY WERE STRANDED ON A DESERT ISLAND.
THEY'LL NAME AN ALBUM THEY THINK MAKES THEM LOOK COOL. SOME BOOK THEY PRETENDED TO READ. A PRETTY CELEBRITY WHO'S EVEN DUMBER THAN THEY ARE.
KNOW WHAT I BROUGHT TO MY DESERT ISLAND?
THE ONLY THING IN ALL THE UNIVERSE I NEED TO SURVIVE.


THE MOST BEAUTIFUL BRAIN IN EXISTENCE.
IT WAS EASY TO CARRY. SINCE IT'S ALREADY INSIDE MY SKULL.
I JUST WISH I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE PUTTING A BULLET IN IT RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
QUENTIN QUIRE.
OMEGA-LEVEL TELEPATH.
RELUCTANT X-MAN.
ASK ME ABOUT MY MUTANT AGENDA
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, KRAKOA. LITERALLY, I DO. BUT NO, I'M NOT REALLY GONNA KILL MYSELF. THAT'D BE THE GREATEST CRIME EVER INFLICTED ON MUTANTDOM. AND YES, I AM INCLUDING GENOCIDE.
I'M JUST BORED IS ALL. NO, I DON'T WANNA GO BACK TO CIVILIZATION. HAVEN'T YOU BEEN LISTENING? I'M NOT BORED WITH MYSELF. I'M BORED WITH EVERYONE ELSE!
+SIGH+ WHERE'S A REAL CHALLENGE WHEN A SUPER-GENIUS NEEDS ONE?
KRAKOA.
SENTIENT ISLAND.
ALSO AN X-MAN.
X-MEN ARE WEIRD.


QUENTIN QUIRE. THE UNIVERSE NEEDS YOUR HELP.
I KNOW, I'M AS SURPRISED AS YOU ARE.
KID GLADIATOR. IF THIS IS SOME JEAN GREY SCHOOL REUNION, I SURE WISH I COULD MAKE IT, BUT I'M A BIT BUSY BEING COMPLETELY UNINTERESTED.
THIS IS NO JOKE, QUIRE. UNLESS YOU COME WITH US, THE SPACEWAYS WILL BURN. ENTIRE WORLDS WILL BE OBLITERATED.
SOUNDS LIKE A FUN PARTY, WARBIRD, BUT STILL NOT INTERESTED. GET OFF MY KRAKOA.
THIS IS THE SAVIOR YOU SPOKE OF? IS HIS MUTANT POWER THAT OF SURLINESS?
WE ARE WASTING TIME HERE. WE MUST RETURN TO THE FIGHT.


WHO'S THE NEW BODYGUARD, KUBARK? MIGHT WANNA TELL HER TO LET THE HAMMER DO THE TALKING OR SHE'S LIABLE TO SEE SOME SURLINESS ALL RIGHT.
WITH A CAPITAL ♯#*@.
BELIEVE ME, CHILD, YOU WOULD NOT WANT TO HEAR WHAT THE HAMMER HAS TO SAY.
WOW. GRADE-A SUPER-POSTURING. ALL AROUND. REALLY. AND I APPRECIATE YOU PEOPLE MAKING THIS VERY SPECIAL CAMEO APPEARANCE IN MY ONGOING SOLO ADVENTURE, BUT...
WAIT, HOW DID YOU LOSERS EVEN FIND ME OUT HERE?
HE IS CALLED HEIMDALL. HE SEES ALL.
WELL THAT'S TOTALLY NOT CREEPY.
SO WHY DON'T YOU HAVE OLD HEIMIE OR KUBARK'S DADDY MOHAWKS GO SAVE THE SPACEWAYS? AND LEAVE ME TO TALK TO MYSELF IN PEACE.
WE CANNOT TARRY ANY LONGER. WHY ARE WE WASTING TIME WITH THIS PETULANT CHILD, WHEN THE PHOENIX COULD BE DESTROYING THE--
WAIT A SECOND.
DID YOU SAY THE PHOENIX?

HOURS EARLIER.

M'KRAAN PALACE.
IN THE FAR REACHES OF SPACE.

THE SHI'AR GODS ARE TOO POWERFUL! BUT WE HAVE THE NUMBERS! WE MUST ENCIRCLE THEM!

YOU DO NOT GIVE ORDERS HERE, WOMAN! THERE ARE ONLY TWO OF THE WRETCHES! WE RUSH LIKE BERSERKERS AND CRUSH THEM INTO SPACE-GRISTLE!

DEATH TO THE SHI'AR!

NO, CUL! WE MUST FIGHT TOGETHER! THEY CANNOT DEFEAT US ALL!

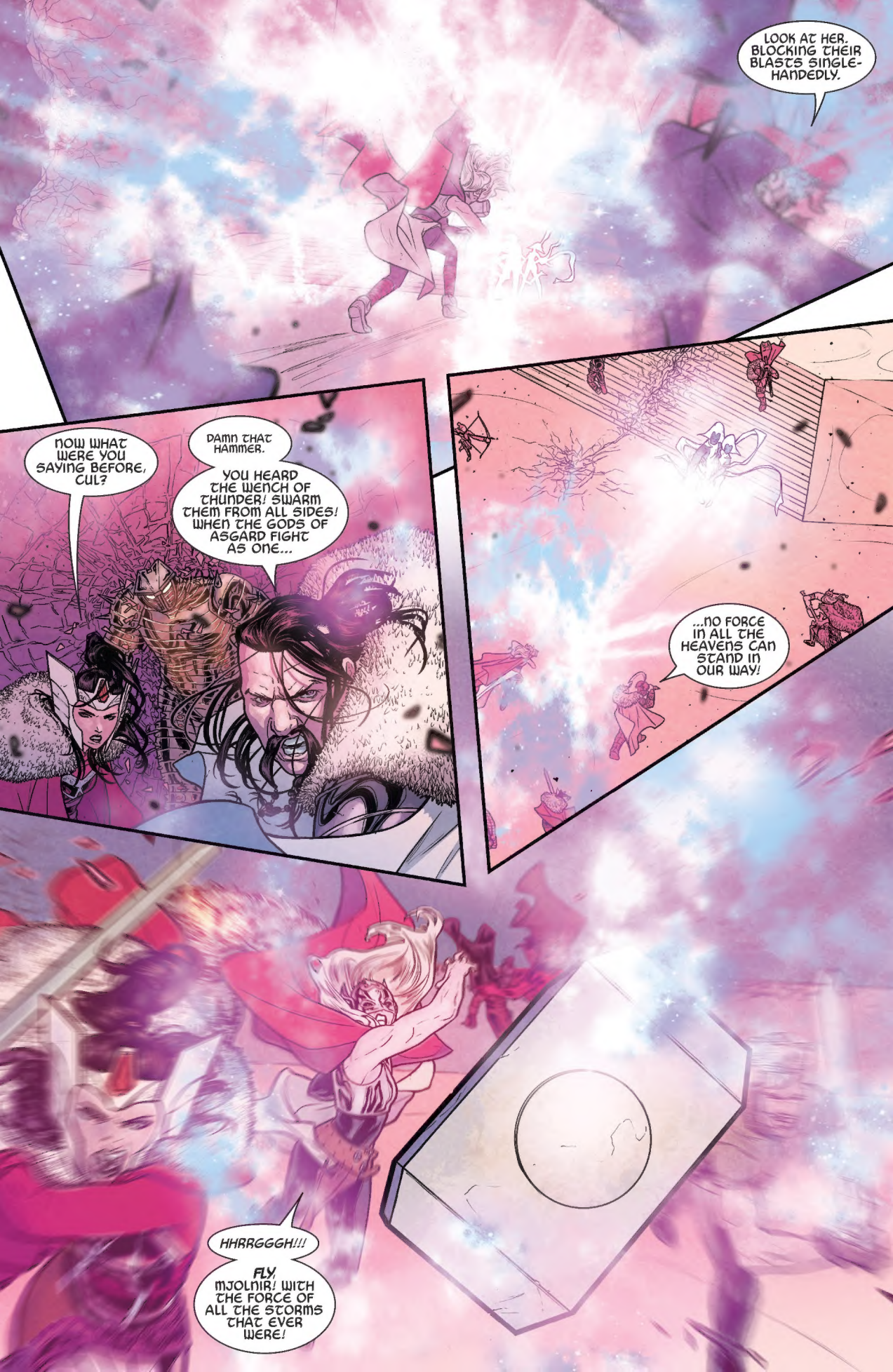
OH, CAN'T WE?

GHHK, GET THIS... THING OFF...

TAKE MY HAND, HUSBAND!

LET US SHOW THEM THE TRUE POWER OF GODS UNITED!

KRROOM


LOOK AT HER. BLOCKING THEIR BLASTS SINGLE-HANDEDLY.
...NO FORCE IN ALL THE HEAVENS CAN STAND IN OUR WAY!
NOW WHAT WERE YOU SAYING BEFORE, CUL?
DAMN THAT HAMMER.
YOU HEARD THE WENCH OF THUNDER! SWARM THEM FROM ALL SIDES! WHEN THE GODS OF ASGARD FIGHT AS ONE...
HHRRGGGH!!!
FLY, MJOLNIR! WITH THE FORCE OF ALL THE STORMS THAT EVER WERE!

SHARRA AND K'YTHRI! MAJESTOR GLADIATOR, WE MUST DEFEND OUR--
STAND DOWN, ENSIGN.
THIS IS NOW A FIGHT FOR THE GODS.
"AND THE GODS ALONE."
GODS... WILL SUFFER AND DIE. ALL OVER AGAIN.
THE ULTIMATE JUDGMENT...NOW THAT IT'S BEEN UNLEASHED, IT...
IT...
CAN'T BE...
BY MY EYES, HOW CAN THAT BE...

PULL, YOU BRAINLESS METAL UNDERGARMENT! FIGHT LIKE A WOMAN FOR ONCE IN YOUR LIFE!
AAARRGH!!!
HOLD HIM RIGHT THERE, HILDEGARDE!
LET WHAT I WREAK UPON THESE SPACE GODLINGS SERVE AS A TASTE OF WHAT I WILL DO TO YOU, OH THIEF OF THUNDER!
AYE. LOVE YOU AS WELL, CUL.
NOW IT ENDS! NOW FALL THE GODS OF THE SHI'AR!
GAAGH!
GUUGH!
STAND ASIDE! MY AXE THIRSTS FOR GOD BLOOD!
NAY! THERE WILL BE NO KILLING.
YIELD, SHARRA AND K'YTHRI.
YIELD? TO THE LIKES OF YOU? NEVER. WE WILL FIGHT UNTIL THE--
ENOUGH!

NO MORE FIGHTING! I AM SHADRAK, GOD OF PEACE AND PERSIMMONS! AND BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME BY OMNIPOTENCE CITY, I COMMAND YOU TO LAY DOWN YOUR ARMS!
SHARRA AND K'YTHRI, HOLY DEITIES OF THE SHI'AR. YOU REQUESTED A CHALLENGE OF THE GODS.
THAT CHALLENGE WAS ANSWERED, WITH ALL DUE FORMALITY. AND HAS HEREBY BEEN CONCLUDED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DIVINE LAW.
THERE HAS BEEN A VICTOR.
HA, YES, BEFORE WE SLAUGHTER YOU ALL, THOR CAN FACE THE HUMILIATION OF HER COMPLETE FAILURE AS A GOD.
TELL HER, SCOREKEEPER. TELL HER THAT THE TWO GREATEST GODS IN ALL CREATION STAND BEFORE HER NOW.
THE FINAL SCORES HAVE BEEN TABULATED. AND A WINNING TOTAL HAS BEEN REACHED. THE WINNER...
...THE WINNER IS THOR.
WHAT?!
WHAT?
IMPOSSIBLE!

THAT IS UTTERLY INCONCEIVABLE! WE WERE TROUNCING HER LIKE THE INSECT SHE IS! YOU SCORED IT WRONG, YOU FOUR-EYED IMBECILE!
THE SCROLL DOES NOT LIE, MY LADY. IT'S TRUE, THOR FAILED MISERABLY IN MANY CHALLENGES.
BUT EXTRA POINTS WERE GIVEN HERE AT THE END, FOR SOMETHING THE RECORD KEEPERS OF OMNIPOTENCE CITY HAVE NEVER RECORDED IN ALL THEIR MANY EONS OF CHALLENGES.
THOR INSPIRED OTHER GODS TO FIGHT IN HER DEFENSE. GODS WHO CROSSED THE COSMOS TO WAGE WAR IN HER NAME.
WE DID NOT FIGHT FOR--
SHUT IT OR YOU'LL EAT MY SWORD.
SUCH INSPIRATION...IS UNPARALLELED IN THE ANNALS OF DIVINITY.
AND WAS HANDSOMELY REWARDED.
YOU WRETCHED FRAUD! WE DEMAND A RECOUNT!
YOU BOTH KNOW THE LAWS OF THE GODS AND ARE BOUND TO HONOR THEM. THERE WILL BE NO RECOUNT.
YOU ARE RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
HGGGHK.
PERHAPS THE NEXT SCOREKEEPER THEY SEND WILL BE MORE COMPETENT.
KILL ME AND SPEND ETERNITY IN THE ENTROPY DUNGEONS BENEATH OMNIPOTENCE CITY.

YOU! GLADIATOR! ALERT THE BATTLE CRUISERS IN EARTH'S ORBIT! TELL THEM TO OPEN FIRE AT ONCE! I WANT THAT PLANET WIPED OFF THE STARMAP!
I AM AFRAID, MY LORD...THAT I CANNOT DO THAT.
YOU WHAT?! YOU ARE MAJESTOR OF THE SHI'AR IMPERIUM! YOU DARE DEFY YOUR OWN GODS?!
AFTER ALL I HAVE SEEN THIS DAY, I SAY THE IMPERIUM HAS NO GODS.
BLASPHEMER! COWARD!
YIELD, SHARRA AND K'YTHRI. THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE.
NEVER!
YOU'RE ALL UNGRATEFUL FOOLS. THE ASGARDIANS, THE SHI'AR, THE ENTIRE DAMNED COSMOS!
NONE OF THEM DESERVE TO LIVE IN OUR UNIVERSE, MY LOVE. WHY SHOULD WE EVEN WAIT FOR THE ULTIMATE JUDGMENT TO ARRIVE?
YES, LET THE FIRES OF OUR PASSION CONSUME THEM ALL NOW, MY SWEET.
KISS ME, DARLING.
KISS ME AND END ALL CREATION.
SHARRA AND K'YTHRI MOLDED THE PLANETS FROM STARDUST AND DROPS OF THEIR OWN MOLTEN BLOOD, IT IS SAID BY THE HIGH PRIESTS OF THE SHI'AR.
BUT THAT IS NOT THE WHOLE OF THE STORY.

There is another great force for change in the Shi'ar pantheon. A sister of sorts to the gods.

Reinforcements en route. Course locked in for M'Kraan palace.

Ready all godkiller torpedoes.

A rambunctious sister they've never quite been able to control.

Though they are able to conjure her, if need be.

Captain! Something on the scanners! Energy readings are off the charts!

On screen! Let's see what those damned Asgardians are throwing at us now!

Though once she is summoned...

Gods be with us.

...only death and devastation follow.

She is called the Phal'kon. The world destroyer.

The Phoenix.

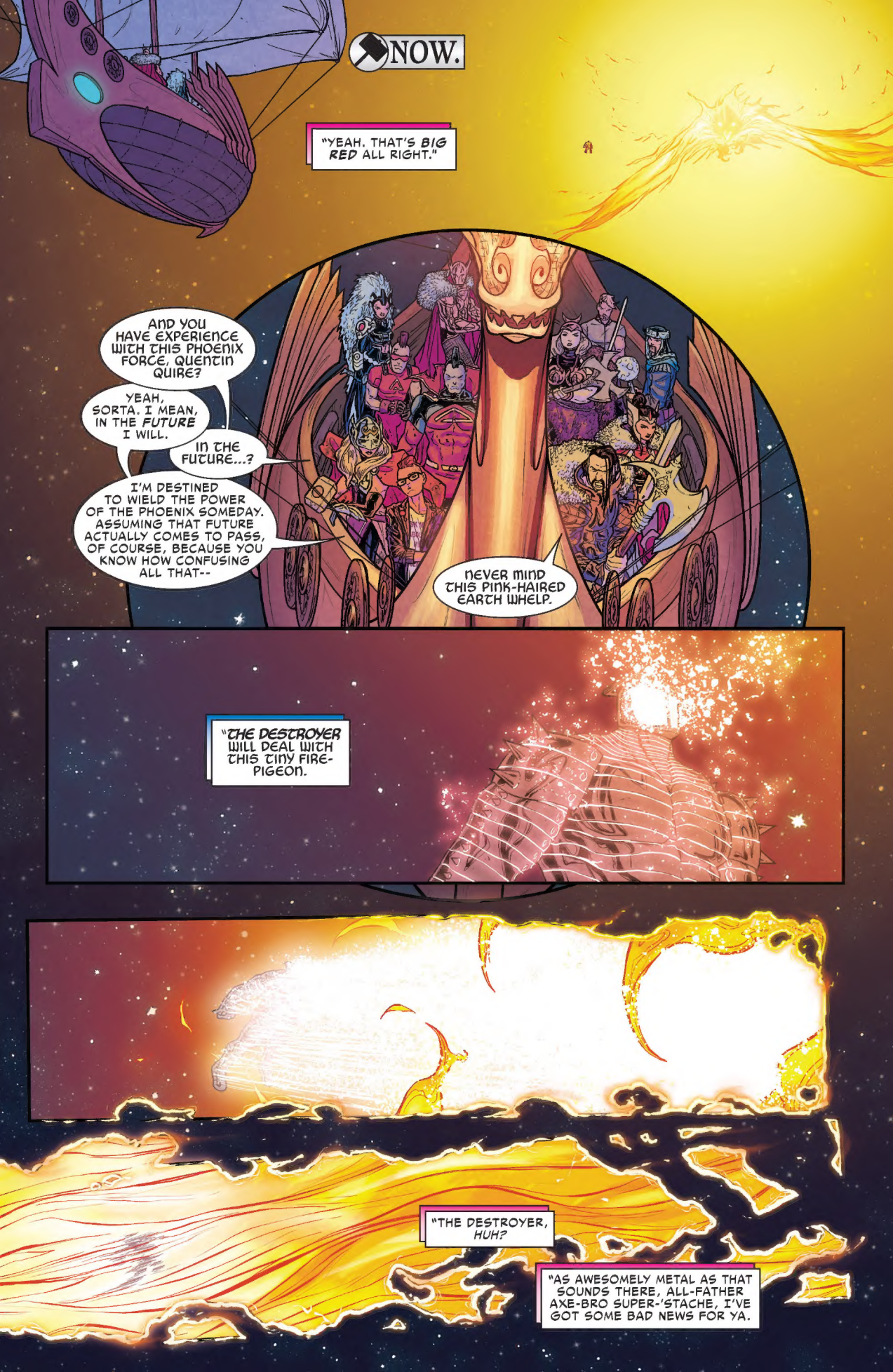
And she has come to set the heavens ablaze.

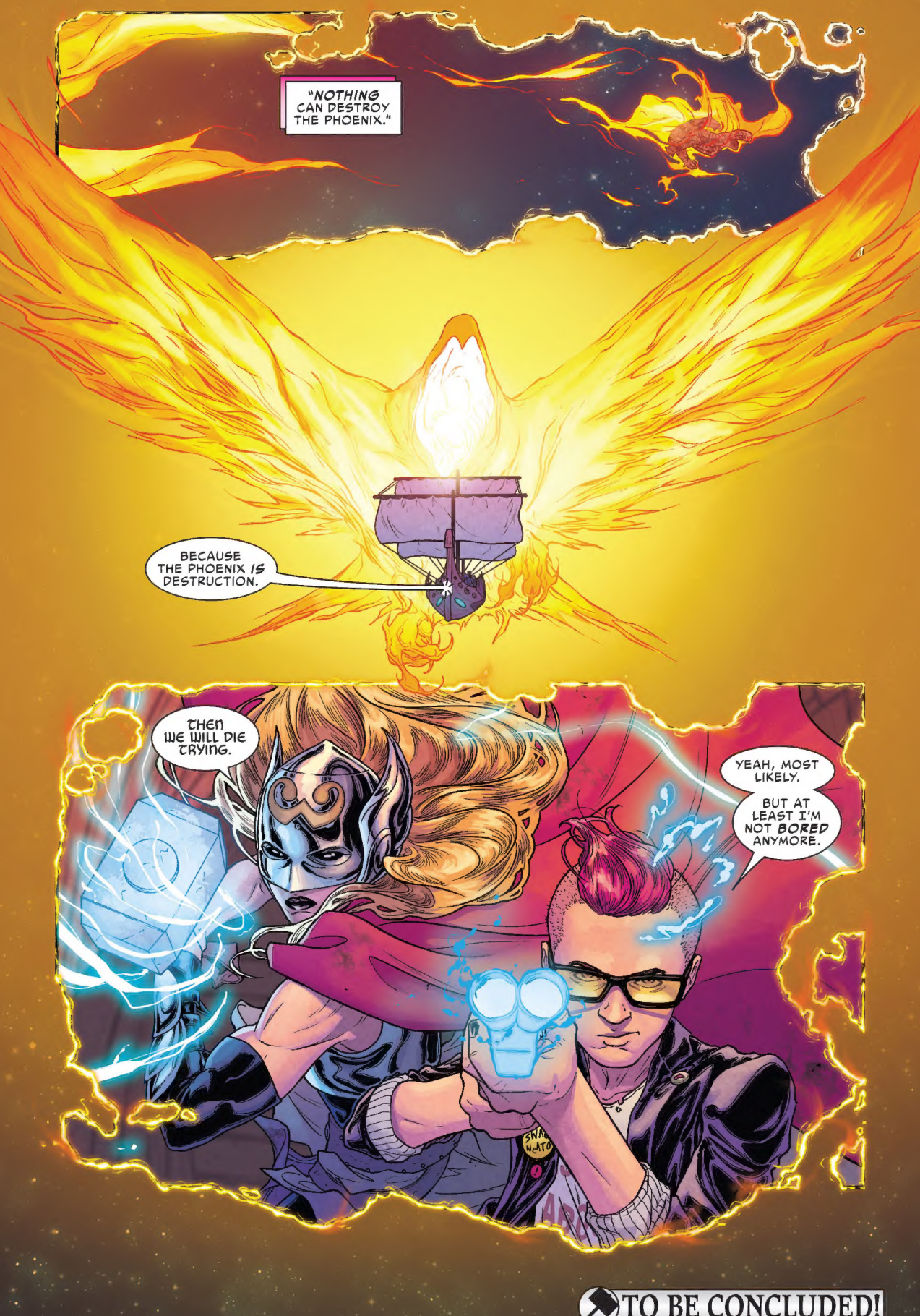
SIR, REPORTS FROM QUADRANT SEVEN. THE REINFORCEMENT SHIPS HAVE BEEN... ANNIHILATED, SIR.
I TOLD THEM TO STAND DOWN! WE ARE NOT TO ENGAGE THE ASGARDIANS!
SIR, IT WASN'T THE GODS. LAST REPORTS SAID IT...IT WAS THE...
WHAT DID YOU DO?!
WE'LL WATCH THEM ALL BURN. THEN REBUILD THE UNIVERSE TOGETHER.
OR NOT. AND JUST MAKE LOVE IN THE ASHES FOR A FEW BILLION YEARS.
MJOLNIR... DO YOU FEEL THAT, SAME AS I?
LIKE THE COSMOS ITSELF IS BURNING. LIKE...
SHE FEELS THE HEAT ON HER SKIN FROM GALAXIES AWAY.
FEELS HER HAMMER SHUDDER. FEELS HER SOUL BEGIN TO MELT.
AND IF SHE DID NOT HAVE THE EYES OF A GODDESS...

...THE SIGHT OF IT WOULD SURELY LEAVE HER BLIND.
AND QUITE MAD.
ALL-MOTHER, BE WITH ME.
AND THAT IS TO SAY NOTHING OF ITS TOUCH.

THOR!
HA!
HA HA HA!
THERE'S NO STOPPING THE PHOENIX, YOU FOOLISH GIRL! IT WILL BURN ALL AND EVERYTHING! IT WILL--
HUUGH!

YOU LAY YOUR HANDS ON YOUR OWN GODS?! YOU WILL NOT LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO SEE THE PHOENIX, YOU...
WHACK
FINALLY!
I THOUGHT WE WOULD NEVER GET BACK TO THE PUNCHING!
YOU AND YOUR GODS HAVE A LOT TO ANSWER FOR, GLADIATOR.
I KNOW, LADY SIF. BUT OUR FIGHT RIGHT NOW IS NOT WITH YOU ASGARDIANS.
SHARRA AND K'YTHRI IN THEIR MADNESS HAVE DOOMED US ALL. IT IS CALLED THE PHOENIX. A FORCE OF UTTER DESTRUCTION.
WE HAVE SOME OF THOSE OURSELVES.
NOT LIKE THIS YOU DON'T. THERE IS NO STOPPING THE PHOENIX.
I WOULDN'T SAY THAT, FATHER.
I KNOW A GUY.


NOW.
"YEAH. THAT'S BIG RED ALL RIGHT."
AND YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH THIS PHOENIX FORCE, QUENTIN QUIRE?
YEAH, SORTA. I MEAN, IN THE FUTURE I WILL.
IN THE FUTURE...?
I'M DESTINED TO WIELD THE POWER OF THE PHOENIX SOMEDAY. ASSUMING THAT FUTURE ACTUALLY COMES TO PASS, OF COURSE, BECAUSE YOU KNOW HOW CONFUSING ALL THAT--
NEVER MIND THIS PINK-HAIRED EARTH WHELP.
"THE DESTROYER WILL DEAL WITH THIS TINY FIRE-PIGEON.
"THE DESTROYER, HUH?
"AS AWESOMELY METAL AS THAT SOUNDS THERE, ALL-FATHER AXE-BRO SUPER-'STACHE, I'VE GOT SOME BAD NEWS FOR YA.


"NOTHING CAN DESTROY THE PHOENIX."
BECAUSE THE PHOENIX *IS* DESTRUCTION.
THEN WE WILL DIE TRYING.
YEAH, MOST LIKELY.
BUT AT LEAST I'M NOT *BORED* ANYMORE.

TO BE CONCLUDED!

AND LO, THERE CAME THE... HAMMER GRAMS

SEND LETTERS TO MHEROES@MARVEL.COM, DON'T FORGET TO MARK "OKAY TO PRINT"!

READY YOUR ARROWS AND AXES AND HAMMERS, WARRIORS! AND HERE'S HOPING THEY'RE FIREPROOF, 'CUZ THAT IS ONE ANGRY-LOOKING, UNIVERSE-BREAKING BIRD. AT THE VERY LEAST, ASSOCIATE EDITOR SARAH BRUNSTAD IS HERE TO ANSWER SOME OF YOUR MOST BURNING QUERIES BEFORE WE'RE ALL EXTINGUISHED IN THE COSMIC FLAMES. TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND SAY YOUR PRAYERS TO THE GODDESS.

I HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE CURRENT SERIES OF *THE MIGHTY THOR* SINCE #1, AND I'M JUST WRITING IN TO SAY THAT IT HAS BEEN A REALLY EXCELLENT SERIES THUS FAR. I THINK THE FEMALE THOR IS A BRILLIANT CONCEPT. THIS PARTICULAR ISSUE (#16) IS THE BEST OF THE WHOLE LOT, IN MY OPINION. SEEING SHARRA AND K'YTHRI IS GREAT, AND IT IS REMARKABLE THAT SHADRAK HAS TURNED UP AGAIN AND PICKED UP YET ANOTHER NAME, "GOD OF DAFFODILS AND DOCUMENTATION"—THAT ONE SORT OF SAYS IT ALL. HE'S A SORT OF DOBBIE CHARACTER. HOWEVER, IT IS THE FINAL PAGE THAT WAS THE BEST OF ALL, WITH THE FIVE ASGARDIAN SHIPS BREATHTAKINGLY ATTACKING A SHI'AR SHIP ON THE EDGE OF SHI'AR-CONTROLLED SPACE. WOW, IT FELT LIKE *PRINCE VALIANT* AT HIS VERY BEST, ONLY BETTER. FANTASTIC STORYTELLING.

WAITING FOR NEXT INSTALLMENT,
RANDALL BARLOW IN ENGLAND

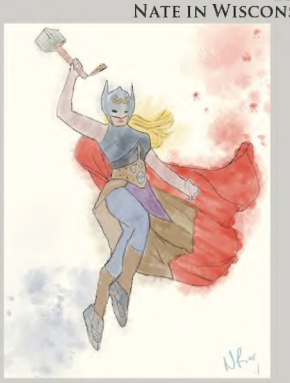
HI RANDALL,

THAT IS HIGH PRAISE INDEED! HAL FOSTER WAS A GENIUS—I HOPE THE EYES OF HISTORY LOOK UPON JASON AND RUSSELL'S RUN OF *THE MIGHTY THOR* AS FAIRLY AS THEY HAVE *PRINCE VALIANT!* BUT WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE THE CONCLUSION OF THIS ARC BEFORE YOU START DECLARING SUPERLATIVES, BECAUSE IT ONLY GETS BETTER FROM HERE!

LET ME START BY SAYING THAT I AM NOT MUCH OF AN ARTIST, BUT I DO LIKE TO DABBLE WHEN INSPIRATION STRIKES. I'VE BEEN SUCH A SUPPORTER AND FAN OF *THE MIGHTY THOR* EVER SINCE THE CHARACTER DEBUTED A COUPLE YEARS BACK. RECENTLY, I DECIDED TO TRY AND GET BACK INTO DIGITAL ART A BIT. THE PAINTING BELOW IS WHAT I CAME UP WITH, BASED ON THE BEAUTIFUL #15 VARIANT COVER BY RYAN SOOK.

I ALSO WANTED TO SAY THANK YOU TO EVERYONE INVOLVED FOR WRITING THESE PHENOMENAL STORIES. IN THESE SOMETIMES CONFUSING, WORRISOME TIMES, YOUR WORK IS MORE APPRECIATED THAN I THINK YOU MAY KNOW. FROM THE WRITERS TO THE ARTISTS TO THE EDITORS AND EVERYONE IN BETWEEN, THANK YOU.

BEST,
NATE IN WISCONSIN



DEAR NATE,

THANK YOU! KNOWING THAT FOLKS LIKE YOU ARE OUT THERE LOOKING FOR THIS BOOK AND FINDING SOLACE IN IT MAKES ALL THE HARD WORK WORTHWHILE. AND I LOVE YOUR TAKE ON THOR! HERE'S HOPING SHE CONTINUES TO INSPIRE YOU.

OH MAN, YOU GUYS, I'M LOVING ALL THINGS ASGARDIAN THESE DAYS! SUCH ENGAGING STORIES & BEAUTIFUL ART! BRAVO.

I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL ALL THE ASGARDIAN SIBLINGS ARE REUNITED. WHAT A GLORIOUS MESS THAT WILL BE! AND WHO WILL FIGURE OUT JUST WHAT RISKY GAME LOKI IS PLAYING FIRST? CERTAINLY NOT ODIN. FREYA, WHEN SHE AWAKENS? PERSONALLY I'M HOPING JANE FOSTER (ESPECIALLY AFTER READING *THE MIGHTY THOR* #16).

I LOVED SIF IN THAT ISSUE ALSO! QUITE A MANIPULATOR AND WORDSMITH AGAINST CUL. I SUPPOSE LANGUAGE IS OFTEN THE FIRST WEAPON DRAWN IN A CONFLICT. ALONG THOSE LINES, I'D LOVE TO SEE MORE OF SIF AND LOKI. WHAT AN EXCITING MESS THOSE TWO COULD GET INTO! THE GOD OF STORIES AND THE GODDESS OF WAR. A WOMAN OF ACTION AND A MAN OF WORDS. YES PLEASE. AND ROMANCE FOR THEM, TOGETHER. FOR US LADY READERS. YOU KNOW IT COULD WORK. WHO BETTER TO CALM THE BEAST WITHIN HER? IF SHE CAN GET OVER HER PREJUDICE, THAT IS. AND PERHAPS HE HIS PRIDE ;-)

GAH, I'D BETTER STOP MYSELF BEFORE I START QUOTING *THE PRINCESS BRIDE* NEXT.

AND AFTER READING *UNWORTHY THOR* #4, I CAN'T WAIT FOR ALL THE THORS TO BRING THE THUNDER!

SHERI IN KANSAS

SHERI,

YOU'RE ABOUT TO GET YOUR WISH! STAY TUNED FOR *THE MIGHTY THOR* #20, WHERE THE ULTIMATE THOR GOES TO WAR! AS FOR SIF AND LOKI, I CAN'T PROMISE A ROMANCE—THOUGH THAT SOUNDS LIKE A PERFECT MIDNIGHT READ TO ME, I IMAGINE SIF IS THROWING UP IN HER MOUTH—I CAN SAY THAT BIG THINGS ARE HAPPENING FOR THE GOD OF LIES IN THE COMING YEAR. HE THINKS HIS LIFE IS COMPLICATED NOW...

I LIKED A LOT OF THINGS ABOUT *THE MIGHTY THOR* #16.

I LIKED HOW THOR COMPLETELY FRUSTRATED THE HAUGHTY AND CLUELESS SHI'AR GODS BY SIMPLY DOING WHAT IS IN HER NATURE.

I LIKED HOW LADY SIF SHAMED CUL BORSON INTO TAKING ACTION WHEN HE CLEARLY DID NOT WANT TO.

BUT I LOVED, ABSOLUTELY LOVED, VOLSTAGG'S SENATE FILIBUSTER AT THE CONGRESS OF WORLDS. HILARIOUS!

GEORGE HABERBERGER

GEORGE,

YOU PICKED SOME OF MY FAVORITE MOMENTS OF THAT ISSUE TOO! IF ONLY ALL FILIBUSTERS WERE THAT ENTERTAINING. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT JASON DOES SO WELL IN THIS BOOK IS ILLUSTRATE HOW COMPLETELY JANE'S MANIFESTATION OF THOR IS INFUSED WITH HER HUMANITY. WHEN SHE WITNESSES SUFFERING ON ANY SCALE, SHE IS COMPELLED TO END IT. THAT CHARACTERISTIC SETS HER APART FROM MOST OF THE OTHER GODS, EVEN ASGARDIANS—AND SHE DOESN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT. IT'S THAT PURE, UNSELFISH HUMANITY THAT INSPIRES GODS LIKE SIF TO FOLLOW HER EVEN WHILE OTHERS LIKE CUL FIGHT FOR HER POWER. IN THE FACE OF SUCH STRENGTH, THE SHI'AR DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE.

I JUST WANT TO SAY HOW MUCH I'M ENJOYING *THE MIGHTY THOR*. I REALLY FEEL LIKE IT'S WRITTEN JUST FOR ME. BETWEEN THE HISTORY OF MJOLNIR, JANE'S VERY REAL STRUGGLES WITH CANCER, THE OUTSTANDING VISUALS (WOW THAT COLOR!), AND THE FANTASTIC MALEKITH, I JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH. THAT THOR IS A WOMAN—AND COMPLETELY UNAPOLOGETIC ABOUT IT, IN TRUE THOR STYLE—MAKES ME FEEL INCLUDED IN THE COMICS UNIVERSE IN A WAY I'VE NEVER FELT BEFORE. NONE OF THE OTHER FEMALE HEROES HAVE SPOKEN TO ME IN QUITE THE SAME WAY. SO, THANK YOU!

I GET WHY PEOPLE MISS ODINSON, BUT THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME IN MARVEL HISTORY SOMEONE OTHER THAN ODINSON HAS HELD THE HAMMER. WHY IS IT SO UNPALATABLE THAT IT IS A WOMAN THIS TIME AROUND? THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE WHO STOPPED READING WHEN THE GENDER SWAP WAS REVEALED, BUT I HAVE YET TO MEET ANYONE WHO'S ACTUALLY READ THE COMIC AND DOESN'T LIKE IT AT LEAST A LITTLE!

I'M ALSO READING *THE UNWORTHY THOR*, WHICH IS A GREAT WAY TO GET MY FILL OF THE ODINSON IN ALL HIS GRITTY GLORY. I WAS SCARED FOR A BIT THAT JANE WOULD LOSE THE HAMMER WHEN ODINSON GOT HIS ISSUES WORKED OUT, BUT IT'S LOOKING LIKE THERE MAY BE A WAY AROUND THAT, WHICH IS AWESOME! OF COURSE, THERE'S ALSO THE ISSUE OF HER CANCER TREATMENTS... I JUST HOPE THOR, GODDESS OF THUNDER IS AROUND FOR A LONG WHILE AND HAS MANY ADVENTURES, BECAUSE SHE IS ABSOLUTELY MY FAVORITE MARVEL CHARACTER.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME TWO THORS TO LOVE, AND FOR GIVING ME A NEW FEMALE HERO TO CALL MY OWN!

ROXANNE READY
MARYLAND

P.S. PLEASE SELL SOME POSTERS OF THE GORGEOUS COVER ART AND TWO-PAGE SPREADS! I WANT TO COVER MY OFFICE WALLS WITH THEM. <3

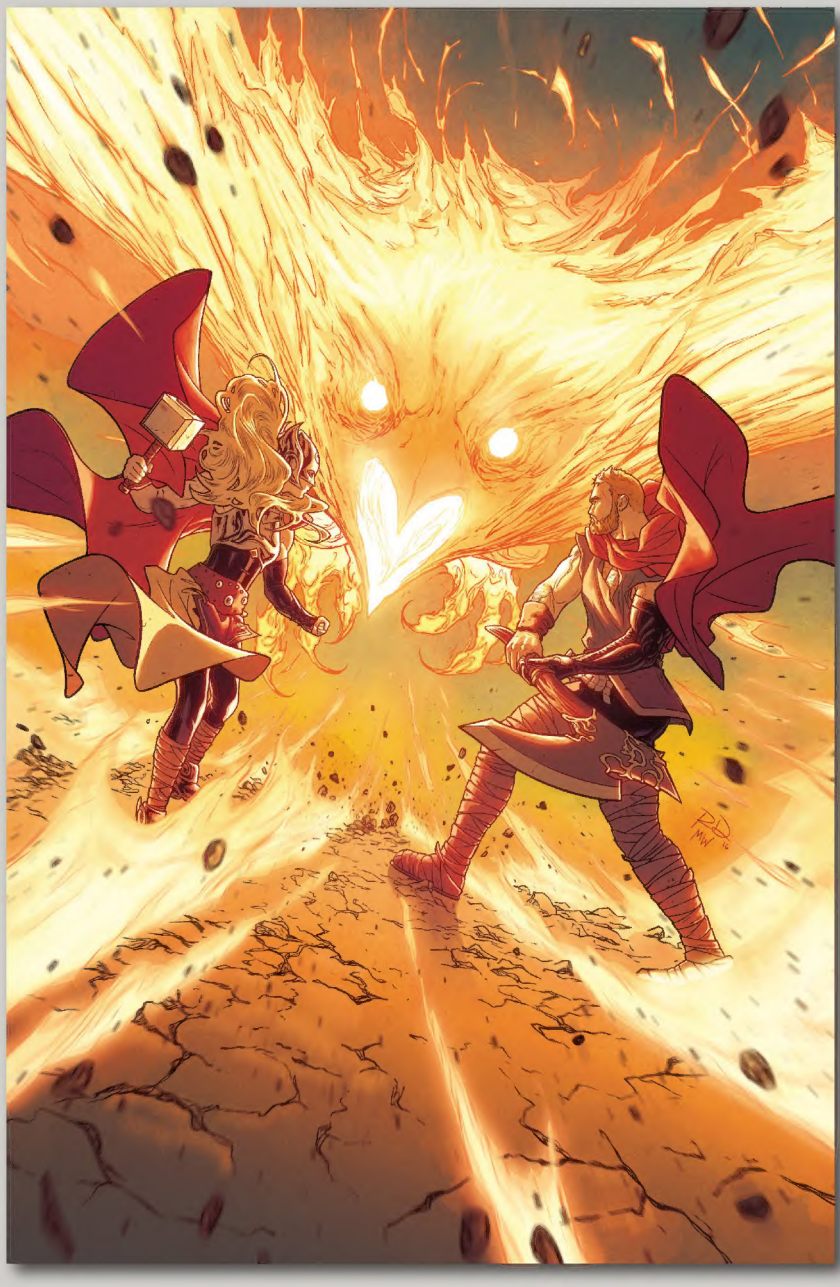
HI ROXANNE,

THANKS FOR WRITING IN! I LOVE GETTING LETTERS FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE AS PERPLEXED BY THE "THOR CAN'T BE A WOMAN" ARGUMENT AS I AM. I DON'T THINK YOU CAN LOOK AT THIS COMIC—NEVER MIND READ IT—WITHOUT SEEING THE LOVE FOR THE THOR TRADITION. THIS IS AN EPIC, COSMOS-SHATTERING TALE IN PURE MARVEL FASHION. AND SPEAKING OF TWO THORS...

THAT'S ALL THE SPACE WE HAVE THIS MONTH, WHAT WITH THE IMPEDING ULTIMATE JUDGMENT. BUT JOIN US NEXT TIME FOR THE RETURN OF THE ODINSON! THAT'S RIGHT—NOW THAT THE PRINCE OF ASGARD IS OUT OF THE COLLECTOR'S PRISON (SEE *UNWORTHY THOR* #1-5!), NO WAY HE'S GOING TO LET THE SHI'AR GET AWAY WITH AN INVASION AND KIDNAPPING ON HIS HOME SOIL. THE ODINSON'S HEADED TO WAR RIGHT ALONGSIDE THOR!

NEXT:

THE MIGHTY THOR #19
THE ASGARD/SHI'AR WAR FINALE!



THE MIGHTY THOR #20
WHO IS THE ALL-NEW ULTIMATE THOR?

THE MIGHTY THOR #21
THE ULTIMATE TEAM-UP!